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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/551,255

09/26/2005

David Shore

739-71457-01

1880

24197 7590 05/12/2009
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EXAMINER

SALONE, BAYAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

4151

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/551,255	Applicant(s) SHORE ET AL.	
	Examiner BAYAN SALONE	Art Unit 4151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/26/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office Action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-7, 10-12, 13-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blaho (US Patent No. 2,255,964), in view of Viola et al (US Patent No. 3,873,168).

Regarding Claim 1, Blaho discloses a method of manufacturing a bush from a blank comprising:

providing a blank (1) having a surface to be lined and at least one spigot (2) upstanding from the surface; and stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush, (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3).

Regarding Claim 1, Blaho does not disclose providing a liner having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface to provide a lined bush.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an

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aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component.

Regarding Claim 2, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied.

Blaho discloses a method wherein the act of stamping includes cutting through at least part of the blank (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3).

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component. By making the previously stated modification, it would have been obvious to cut through the liner and at least part of the blank as desired.

Regarding Claim 3, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses a method wherein the act of stamping comprises cutting completely through the blank (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3). Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping to cut completely through the blank however, Blaho discloses a blank of annular shape forged or stamped from suitable metal or metal alloy to provide a neck (2) and outwardly extending flange (3), (Col 2, Lines 39-41, Fig. 1). It would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the act of stamping would have completely cut through the blank to form the neck (2) and flange (3) as desired.

Regarding Claim 4, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses a method wherein the blank is stamped (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3).

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component. By making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art that when the blank is stamped it would have to be stamped from the side of the blank provided with the liner. This act would stamp out the blank around the spigot, such that the liner lies on the surface to provide a lined bush.

Regarding Claim 5, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose a method wherein the liner is bonded to the surface prior to stamping, for the benefit of improving long lasting characteristics of low coefficient of friction from the liner (Col 3, Lines 8-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho for the benefit improving long lasting characteristics of low coefficient of friction from the liner.

Regarding Claim 6, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 5, remains as previously applied.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose a method wherein pressure is applied to the liner prior to stamping to assist consistent bonding of the liner to the surface, for the benefit of improving long lasting characteristics of low coefficient of friction from the liner (Col 3, Lines 26-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho to assist consistent bonding of the liner to the surface, for the benefit improving long lasting characteristics of low coefficient of friction from the liner.

Regarding Claim 7, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and discloses a method wherein the liner around the spigot is spaced apart from the spigot by a clearance gap (Col 4, Lines 11-16, Fig. 4, #'s 11, 12, 14 and 20). Viola et al does not explicitly teach a clearance gap however, the examiner interprets the regions respectively to the immediate right of the liner (14) and immediate left of spacer (11) to be gaps.

Regarding Claim 10, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied.

Blaho discloses a method wherein the blank is machined to provide at least one spigot (2), the at least one spigot (2) having a central bore (4) machined therein (Col 2, Lines 42-46, Fig 3, # 4).

Regarding Claim 11, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses

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a method wherein the blank is a billet machined from a bar of material (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3).

Regarding Claim 12, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses a method of making flanged bush comprising: stamping a blank to form spigot and outwardly extending flange (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3) and forming mechanical bond between an outer edge and an edge of the flange (Col 3, Lines 26-67, Figs. 4 and 5, #'s 3a and 3b).

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component. Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping the flange to form the mechanical bond however, by making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the mechanical bond between the edge of the liner and the edge of the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank.

Regarding Claim 13, Blaho discloses a flanged bush comprising: a spigot (2) having a flange (3) which provides a flange surface surrounding the spigot; and a mechanical bond between an outer edge and an edge of the flange (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3 and Col 3, Lines 26-67, Figs. 4 and 5, #'s 3a and 3b).

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Blaho does not disclose a liner having an aperture, wherein there is an adhesive bond between the flange surface and the liner and a mechanical bond between an outer edge of the liner and an edge of the flange.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; wherein there is an adhesive bond between the flange surface and the liner, for the benefit of keeping the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant in place to minimize friction after any wear occurs (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16 and Col 4, Lines 42-45). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of keeping the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant in place to minimize friction after any wear occurs. Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping the flange to form the mechanical bond however, by making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the mechanical bond between the edge of the liner and the edge of the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank. Likewise, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho for the benefit of keeping the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant in place to minimize friction after any wear occurs.

Regarding Claim 14, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a flanged bush according to Claim 13, remains as previously applied.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose a method wherein the liner (12, 14) is impregnated with a polyimide resin and includes layers of woven glass and graphite, for the benefit of increasing strength and maintaining the liner shape using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties (Col 3, Lines 8-11 and 22-37, Fig. 2, #'s 12 and 14). Viola et al does not explicitly teach a metal mesh however, the

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examiner interprets the polyimide resin/glass/graphite mesh used to create the liner of Viola et al to be equivalent to a metal mesh liner. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the liner as disclosed by Viola et al, for the benefit of increasing strength and maintaining the liner shape using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties.

Regarding Claim 15, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a flanged bush according to Claim 14, remains as previously applied. For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose a method wherein the liner is a self-lubricating liner, for the benefit of minimizing friction using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties (Col 3, Lines 14-18, Fig. 2, #'s 12 and 14). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho for the benefit of minimizing friction using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties.

Regarding Claim 16, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a flanged bush according to Claim 13, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses a method of making flanged bush comprising: stamping a blank to form spigot and outwardly extending flange (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3) and forming mechanical bond between an outer edge and an edge of the flange (Col 3, Lines 26-67, Figs. 4 and 5, #'s 3a and 3b).

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange.

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Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping the flange to form the mechanical bond however, by making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the mechanical bond between the edge of the liner and the edge of the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange to the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank.

Regarding Claim 17, A the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a flanged bush according to Claim 13, remains as previously applied. For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose a method wherein the liner is a self-lubricating liner, for the benefit of minimizing friction using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties (Col 3, Lines 14-18, Fig. 2, #'s 12 and 14). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho for the benefit of minimizing friction using an anti-friction lubricant with excellent mechanical properties.

Regarding Claim 18, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a flanged bush according to Claim 14, remains as previously applied. Blaho discloses a method of making flanged bush comprising: stamping a blank to form spigot and outwardly extending flange (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3) and forming mechanical bond between an outer edge and an edge of the flange (Col 3, Lines 26-67, Figs. 4 and 5, #'s 3a and 3b).

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16). By modifying Blaho

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by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange.

Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping the flange to form the mechanical bond however, by making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the mechanical bond between the edge of the liner and the edge of the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange to the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank.

Regarding Claim 20, Blaho discloses a flanged bush comprising: a spigot (2) having a flange (3) which provides a flange surface surrounding the spigot; and a mechanical bond between an outer edge and an edge of the flange (Col 2, Lines 39-42, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 1, 2, and 3 and Col 3, Lines 26-67, Figs. 4 and 5, #'s 3a and 3b).

Blaho does not disclose a liner having an aperture, wherein there is an adhesive bond between the flange surface and the liner and a mechanical bond between an outer edge of the liner and an edge of the flange.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Viola et al is in the same field of endeavor of manufacturing bushings and bearings and disclose providing a liner (14) having an aperture; locating the aperture in the liner around the spigot such that the liner lies on the surface; wherein there is an adhesive bond between the flange surface and the liner, for the benefit of keeping the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant in place to minimize friction after any wear occurs (Col 2, Lines 51-64, Figs. 1 and 2, #'s 10, 12, 14, 16 and Col 4, Lines 42-45). By modifying Blaho by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange and the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant are kept in place; minimizing friction after any wear occurs. Blaho does not explicitly teach stamping the flange to form the mechanical bond however, by making the modification of the previously stated art combination, it would have been obvious to

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one of ordinary skill in the art that the mechanical bond between the edge of the liner and the edge of the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank; for the benefit of ensuring that the liner is fully bonded around the edge of the flange so the flange could be formed during the act of stamping the blank. Likewise, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Viola et al and the disclosure of Blaho to form the secure adhesive bond between the flange and surface liner, for the benefit of keeping the graphite fibers of an anti-friction lubricant in place to minimize friction after any wear occurs.

3. Claims 8 ,9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blaho (US Patent No. 2,255,964), in view of Viola et al (US Patent No. 3,873,168), in further view of Satoh et al (US Patent No. 5,499,440).

Regarding Claim 8, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 1, remains as previously applied, but does not teach the apertures as claimed.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Satoh et al is in the same field of endeavor of joining members and disclose a method wherein a plurality of spigots (5) are provided on the blank (plate (1)) and at least a corresponding number of apertures (6), wherein the apertures (6) are located around respective spigots; for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members (Col 2, Lines 50-54). Satoh does not explicitly teach a blank however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a blank would have been formed having multiple spigots. By modifying Satoh et al by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al with Satoh et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component. By applying the aforementioned art combination as stated, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of invention to provide the liner with at least a corresponding number of apertures, such that the liner lies on the surface and the step act of stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush is

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carried out simultaneously for all the spigots so as to provide a plurality of lined and flanged bushes from one stamping operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Satoh et al with the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al to modify the method of forming the flanged and lined bush to form multiple lined and flanged bushes from a single blank, wherein the apertures are located around respective spigots such that the liner lies on the surface and the act of stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush is carried out simultaneously for all the spigots so as to provide a plurality of lined and flanged bushes from one stamping operation, for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members and creating less waste by producing multiple lined and flanged bushes from the same blank.

Regarding Claim 9, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho, Viola et al and Satoh et al disclose a method according to Claim 8, remains as previously applied.

The aforementioned art combination does not disclose wherein the spigots are provided on the blank in a regular array.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Satoh et al is in the same field of endeavor of joining members and disclose a method wherein the frame (2) that is to be joined with plate (1) has a plurality of apertures equidistantly formed on a periphery of a central portion thereof, (Col 2, Lines 36-38). Satoh et al does not explicitly teach a method wherein a plurality of spigots are provided on the blank in a regular array however, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the spigots (5) formed on plate (1) would have to be formed in a regular array to be properly mated with the apertures in frame (2); for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members. By modifying Satoh et al by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al with Satoh et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the

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bushing surface and a mating component. By applying the aforementioned art combination as stated, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of invention to provide the plurality of spigots in a regular array to properly mate with at least a corresponding number of apertures. By doing so, the liner lies on the surface of the blank and the step act of stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush is carried out simultaneously for all the spigots so as to provide a plurality of lined and flanged bushes from one stamping operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Satoh et al with the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al to modify the method by forming multiple spigots of multiple lined and flanged bushes in a regular array; to be properly mated with the apertures in the liner for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members and creating less waste by producing multiple lined and flanged bushes from the same blank.

Regarding Claim 19, the aforementioned art combination of Blaho and Viola et al disclose a method according to Claim 5, remains as previously applied, but does not teach the apertures and features as claimed in claim 19.

For the purpose of the art rejection above, Satoh et al is in the same field of endeavor of joining members and disclose a method wherein a plurality of spigots (5) are provided on the blank (plate (1)) and at least a corresponding number of apertures (6), wherein the apertures (6) are located around respective spigots; for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members (Col 2, Lines 50-54). Satoh does not explicitly teach a blank however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a blank could be formed having multiple spigots. By modifying Satoh et al by combining the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al with Satoh et al, the liner is added to the bush; for the benefit of minimizing friction between the bushing surface and a mating component. By applying the aforementioned art combination as stated, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of invention to provide the liner with at least a

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corresponding number of apertures, such that the liner lies on the surface and the step act of stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush is carried out simultaneously for all the spigots so as to provide a plurality of lined and flanged bushes from one stamping operation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the disclosure of Satoh et al with the disclosures of Blaho and Viola et al to modify the method of forming the flanged and lined bush to form multiple lined and flanged bushes from a single blank, wherein the apertures are located around respective spigots such that the liner lies on the surface and the act of stamping out the blank around the spigot to provide a flanged bush is carried out simultaneously for all the spigots so as to provide a plurality of lined and flanged bushes from one stamping operation, for the benefit of securing a stronger bond between the members and creating less waste by producing multiple lined and flanged bushes from the same blank.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patent Examiner whose telephone number is (571) 270-7739. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am-5:00pm (alternate Fridays off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela Ortiz can be reached on (571) 272- 1206. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA).

/Bayán Salone/

/Angela Ortiz/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4151